



III MEF INFORMATION GROUP COMMANDING OFFICER'S PHILOSOPHY OF COMMAND



Every Marine lives by two basic principles of leadership; accomplish the mission, and take care of Marines and Sailors. Our ability to do both, during a challenging period of transition and growth, will require the skillful combination of various tools. The most important of these, and the foundation on which this Group's leadership will be based, are professionalism, combat readiness, teamwork, and communication.

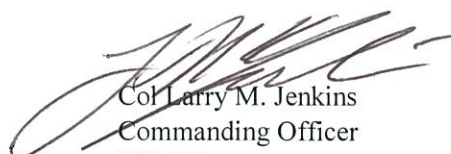
Professionalism: This Group, and each Marine in it, will maintain the highest standards of professionalism. Maintaining high standards includes everything from personal appearance, to technical excellence in support of the mission. The conduct of the Group's Marines, along with the quality of their work will be the basis of our reputation. Marines will safeguard the reputation and honor of the organization as closely as their own, and all business will be conducted "above board." Honesty, integrity, and professional excellence both on and off duty will build an organization that the Marines and the units they work with will respect and trust.

Combat Readiness: Everything we do as individuals, and as a unit, will focus on improving and maintaining our combat readiness. In an atmosphere where day-to-day tasks often outpace available resources, we will ruthlessly and transparently prioritize combat readiness. Our challenge will be balancing our ability to "fight tonight" with efforts to build future capability/capacity. Each leader will continuously evaluate his or her Marines' ability to succeed in combat, and will maintain their equipment at the highest state of readiness. Scores and ratings are meaningless unless they provide an honest assessment of our ability to execute our wartime mission, and therefore inform our future actions. The Group will be committed first and always to the tireless pursuit of mission accomplishment, followed closely by efforts to develop and prepare each Marine/Sailor for success and continued growth as a professional in arms.

Teamwork: "The whole is greater than the sum of its parts." Each unit, each individual, in this Group plays a critical role in the III MEF mission. Our unique capabilities however, when synchronized across the Group will be a force multiplier and will transform the way the MEF operates in a highly complex operating environment. We must transition from a "headquarters" mentality to that of an operational command. Shared situational awareness, that goes beyond individual units or functions, leverages our complimentary capabilities. Each and every member is treated with respect as a member of the team; the family. Building first from highly trained individuals and small units, we will encourage all leaders to look up and out, constantly evaluating how they fit in the larger organization, and thereby improving combat readiness throughout the command.

Communication: Teamwork is possible only through constant communication. Proactive, effective communication, at all levels, establishes shared situational awareness and builds trust in the team. Trust in turn, makes the team stronger. Communication begins with Commanders, but extends to each level in the command. It must travel not only up and down the chain of command, but also laterally and external to those we work with and those we support. Our leaders will foster an atmosphere of trust that encourages Marines to challenge the status quo, share ideas, and solve complex problems.

Underpinning this philosophy is a singular focus on protecting our center of gravity; the spirit and strength of the individual Marine/Sailor. Be there no mistake, the success of this team is built on the individual actions of its members. Each Marine and Sailor in this Group is empowered as a leader and is responsible for maintaining an atmosphere of integrity and success. The guidance above sets the foundation, but it's the daily performance of EACH OF OUR LEADERS that will ensure we accomplish the mission and take care of our fellow Marines.


Col Larry M. Jenkins
Commanding Officer
III MIG